



# Department of Justice

## Federal Bureau of Prisons

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Director of Federal Bureau of Prisons Reaffirmed the Importance of Parenting to the Federal Inmate Population**



WASHINGTON – On June 12, 2013, Charles E. Samuels, Jr., Director of Federal Bureau of Prisons participated in a White House event in support of Children of Incarcerated Parents, an ongoing initiative involving the Department of Justice and other federal agencies.

In support of this important issue, on June 19, the Director wrote a memorandum to all inmate parents in federal prisons encouraging them to engage with their children in a positive manner.

In sending this message, Director Samuels reaffirmed the agency's commitment to helping inmates prepare to reenter society and live successfully in the community. He wrote, "Staff in the BOP are committed to giving you opportunities to enhance your relationship with your children and your role as a parent." Director Samuels challenged inmate parents to use each day to make a positive difference in their own lives and in the lives of their children. He highlighted the inmate programs designed to assist them develop the skills they need to be positive members of the community and to be effective parents.

The Director expressed his hope that families are able to bring their children to visit their incarcerated parent because "there is no substitute for seeing their child, looking them in the eye, and letting them know that although incarcerated, they care about their children."

The parenting message can be viewed [here](#).